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TO: Examiner Peter Paras
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COMMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS:

Dear Examiner Paras:

This fax includes a Boston Globe notice of June 12, 2001 ("Shutting down genes") concerning a scientific publication from Klaus Weber's group at the Max Planck Institute; a copy of that scientific publication (Elbashir et al., Nature 411, 494-498, 2001) and a Nature News and Views article (Bass, B. Nature 411, 428-429) highlighting that publication.

Elbashir et al. cite the published paper of the present application, see their reference 15. However they mischaracterize this work as an example of co-suppression, whereas the application specifically points out that muting of the endogenous gene is independent of expression of the transgene (see the application, p. 10, lines 13-15), unlike co-suppression.

I hope this information is helpful to you, and I look forward to talking with you in the future, perhaps next week.

Sincerely,
Sonia Guterman

Sonia Guterman

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